

Dear Joel,

I've shown Davaan Perry a copy of the letter to Acad. Velikhov from Gerasimov asking him to OK the handover of the Slow Scan equipment to Moscow News. Gerasimov signed this letter on 28 October as soon as he got back from his vacation. Velikhov sanctioned the handover on 13 November the only day he was spending in Moscow before flying to Geneva with Gorbachev for the summit. Preparations for the summit made it impossible for us to do the planned exchange on 9 Nov. Sorry about that, but it is not the first time that major international events interfere with our lesser plans. The Korea airline disaster was another example...

Davaan will update you on the progress of preparations for the global New Year's party and will also give you the Russian original of the script proposal (Yuri didn't have time to translate it).

I hope you better than anyone can appreciate the potential the new situation is offering us and convince the citizen diplomats within your governmental pull that the new channel of communication is our common achievement and all of them are welcome to participate in the global New Year's Eve and turn meeting on New Year's day. PTO

As to planned STM is the ~~shared~~ joint  
initiative of Moscow News and the city council  
of Moscow I can ~~not~~ use the slow scan  
every day, if need be. I hope that using  
this channel we have initiated we'll be  
able to coordinate the efforts of all the  
participants during the run-up to the STM  
and convince them that we have enough  
time in hand to do it at a decent  
creative and artistic level.  
I hope to see you again soon on the  
slow-scan screen.

Best regards to  
all our friends  
in San Francisco  
& love to Prang

Joyph